

# Generalized Radiative Transfer as an Efficient Computational Tool for Spatial and/or Spectral Integration over Unresolved Variability in Multi-Angle Observations





Generalized Radiative Transfer (GRT) as an Efficient Computational Tool for Spatial and/or Spectral Integration over Unresolved Variability in Multi-Angle Yet-Accurate Observations ... of Aerosols

Anthony B. Davis, Feng Xu, David J. Diner

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# Roadmap

#### Formulation of GRT

- Now with time/path dependence as well
- Going from time-domain to absorption by a uniform gas

#### Motivation of GRT ...

- as a resource for integration over spatial variability
- as a resource for integration over spectral variability

## Application to multi-angle observations of optically thin aerosol layers with interstitial (gaseous) absorption:

- Spatially variable scene, quasi-monochromatic sensor;
- Spatially uniform scene, realistic spectral integration;
- Both spatial and spectral variability.

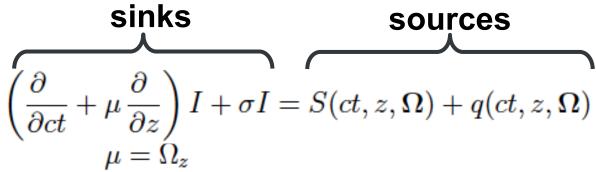
#### Summary & Outlook

sinks sources 
$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial ct} + \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) I + \sigma I = S(ct, z, \Omega) + q(ct, z, \Omega)$$
 
$$\mu = \Omega_z$$

sinks sources 
$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial ct} + \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) I + \sigma I = S(ct, z, \Omega) + q(ct, z, \Omega)$$
 
$$\mu = \Omega_z$$

#### **Boundary/initial conditions:**

$$I(ct, 0, \Omega) \equiv 0$$
 for  $\mu > 0$ , and  $I(ct, H, \Omega) \equiv 0$  for  $\mu < 0$ ;  $ct > 0$ 



#### **Boundary/initial conditions:**

$$I(ct, 0, \Omega) \equiv 0 \text{ for } \mu > 0, \text{ and } I(ct, H, \Omega) \equiv 0 \text{ for } \mu < 0; ct > 0$$

Source term:

$$q(ct, z, \Omega) = 2F_0\delta(ct)\delta(z)\delta(\Omega - \Omega_0)$$

Source function:

$$S(ct, z, \Omega) = \sigma_{\rm s} \int_{\Xi} p(\Omega \cdot \Omega') I(ct, z, \Omega') d\Omega'$$

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## Integro-differential formulation: Complete!

NB. In this study:  $\sigma = \sigma_{\rm s} + \sigma_{\rm a} = \omega_0 \sigma_{\rm p} + [(1 - \omega_0) \sigma_{\rm p} + \sigma_{\rm g}]$  ... later on:  $\sigma_{\rm g} \to k_\lambda$ 

## Integral formulation:

Source term:

$$q(ct, z, \Omega) = 2F_0\delta(ct)\delta(z)\delta(\Omega - \Omega_0)$$

Source function: 
$$S(ct,z,\Omega) = \sigma_{\rm s} \int\limits_{\Xi} p(\Omega \cdot \Omega') I(ct,z,\Omega') {\rm d}\Omega'$$
 "Formal" solution:

$$I(ct, z, \Omega) = \begin{cases} \int_0^{ct} \int_0^z [S + q](ct', z', \Omega) e^{-\sigma \frac{z - z'}{\mu}} \delta\left((ct - ct') - \frac{z - z'}{\mu}\right) \frac{\mathrm{d}z'}{\mu} \mathrm{d}ct' & \text{for } \mu > 0 \\ \int_0^{ct} \int_z^H [S + q](ct', z', \Omega) e^{-\sigma \frac{z' - z}{|\mu|}} \delta\left((ct - ct') - \frac{z' - z}{|\mu|}\right) \frac{\mathrm{d}z'}{|\mu|} \mathrm{d}ct' & \text{for } \mu < 0 \end{cases}$$

# "Ancillary" integral formulation:

Source term:

$$q(ct, z, \Omega) = 2F_0\delta(ct)\delta(z)\delta(\Omega - \Omega_0)$$

Source function: 
$$S(ct,z,\Omega) = \int_{\Xi} p(\Omega \cdot \Omega') I(ct,z,\Omega') d\Omega'$$
  
Formal solution:

#### Formal solution:

$$I(ct,z,\Omega) = \begin{cases} \int_0^{ct} \int_0^z [S+q](ct',z',\Omega) \mathrm{e}^{-\sigma\frac{z-z'}{\mu}} \delta\left((ct-ct') - \frac{z-z'}{\mu}\right) \frac{\mathrm{d}z'}{\mu} \mathrm{d}ct' & \text{for } \mu > 0 \\ \int_0^{ct} \int_z^H [S+q](ct',z',\Omega) \mathrm{e}^{-\sigma\frac{z'-z}{|\mu|}} \delta\left((ct-ct') - \frac{z'-z}{|\mu|}\right) \frac{\mathrm{d}z'}{|\mu|} \mathrm{d}ct' & \text{for } \mu < 0 \end{cases}$$

# Equivalently, when $|\dot{T}(\tau)| = T(\tau) = e^{-\tau}$ (Beer's law):

$$S(ct, z, \Omega) = \int_{0}^{ct} \int_{0}^{H} \int_{\Xi} \mathcal{K}(ct, z, \Omega; ct', z', \Omega') S(ct', z', \Omega') d\Omega' dz' dct' + Q_{S}(ct, z, \Omega)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{with-} \begin{cases} \text{kernel:} \quad \mathcal{K}(ct,z,\Omega;ct',z',\Omega') &= \frac{\langle \sigma_{\mathrm{s}} \rangle}{|\mu'|} \, \Theta\left(\frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) \left| \dot{T}\left(\langle \sigma \rangle \frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) \right| \\ \delta\left((ct-ct') - \frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) p(\Omega \cdot \Omega'), \\ \text{source:} \quad Q_S(ct,z,\Omega) &= F_0 \delta\left(ct - \frac{z}{\mu_0}\right) \left| \dot{T}\left(\langle \sigma \rangle \frac{z}{\mu_0}\right) \right| \langle \sigma_{\mathrm{s}} \rangle p(\Omega \cdot \Omega_0) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{with} & = \begin{cases} \text{kernel:} \quad \mathcal{K}(ct,z,\Omega;ct',z',\Omega') & = \quad \frac{\langle \sigma_{\rm s} \rangle}{|\mu'|} \, \Theta\left(\frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) \left| \dot{T}\left(\langle \sigma \rangle \frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) \right| \\ \delta\left((ct-ct') - \frac{z-z'}{\mu'}\right) p(\Omega \cdot \Omega'), \\ \text{source:} \quad Q_S(ct,z,\Omega) & = F_0 \delta\left(ct - \frac{z}{\mu_0}\right) \left| \dot{T}\left(\langle \sigma \rangle \frac{z}{\mu_0}\right) \right| \langle \sigma_{\rm s} \rangle p(\Omega \cdot \Omega_0) \end{aligned}$$

#### Followed, after solution, by:

$$I_{\text{sca}}(ct,z,\Omega) = \begin{cases} \int_{\max\{0,z-ct\mu\}}^{z} S\left(ct - \frac{z-z'}{\mu},z',\Omega\right) T\left(\langle\sigma\rangle\frac{z-z'}{\mu}\right) \mathrm{d}z'/\mu & \text{for } \mu > 0 \\ \int_{z}^{\min\{H,z+ct|\mu|\}} S\left(ct - \frac{z'-z}{|\mu|},z',\Omega\right) T\left(\langle\sigma\rangle\frac{z'-z}{|\mu|}\right) \mathrm{d}z'/|\mu| & \text{for } \mu < 0 \end{cases}$$

# Equivalently, when $|\dot{T}(\tau)| = T(\tau) = e^{-\tau}$ (Beer's law):

$$S(ct, z, \mathbf{\Omega}) = \int_{0}^{ct} \int_{0}^{H} \int_{\Xi} \mathcal{K}(ct, z, \mathbf{\Omega}; ct', z', \mathbf{\Omega}') S(ct', z', \mathbf{\Omega}') d\mathbf{\Omega}' dz' dct' + Q_{S}(ct, z, \mathbf{\Omega})$$

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 ... and directly transmitted back to TOA ( $z = H$ ).

... 1<sup>ce</sup> scattered,

Parametric GRT model: 
$$\begin{cases} T_a(\tau) = \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{a}\right)^{-a} \\ \left|\dot{T}_a(\tau)\right| = \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{a}\right)^{-(a+1)} \end{cases}$$

Standard RT model is recovered at  $a \rightarrow \infty$ 

... the only case where  $T_{\infty}(\tau) = |dT_{\infty}/d\tau|(\tau) = \exp(-\tau)$ .

#### **Singly-scattered radiance at TOA:**

$$BRF_a(\Omega_0, \Omega) = \frac{\pi I(0, \Omega)}{\mu_0 F_0} = \frac{\pi \varpi_0 p(\Omega \cdot \Omega_0)}{\mu_0 |\mu|} \int_0^{\tau} |\dot{T}_a(\tau'/\mu_0)| T_a(\tau'/|\mu|) d\tau'$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{BRF}_{a}(\Omega_{0}, \Omega)}{\varpi_{0} 4\pi p(\Omega \cdot \Omega_{0})} = \frac{a(\mu_{0}|\mu|)^{a}}{4|\mu|(\mu_{0} - |\mu|)^{2a}} \left[ B\left(1 - \frac{|\mu|}{\mu_{0}}, 2a, 1 - a\right) - B\left(\frac{1 - |\mu|/\mu_{0}}{1 - \tau/a\mu_{0}}, 2a, 1 - a\right) \right]$$

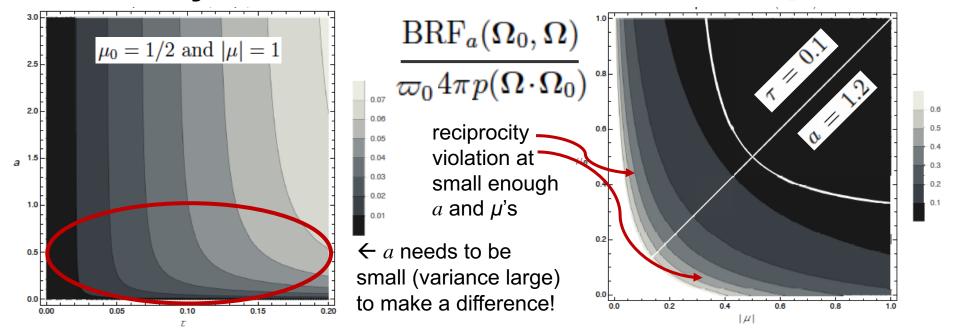
$$=\frac{1-\mathrm{e}^{-(1/\mu_0+1/|\mu|)\tau}}{4(\mu_0+|\mu|)}, \text{ when } a \to \infty$$
 
$$B(x,a,b)=\int_0^x t^{a-1}(1-t)^{b-1}\mathrm{d}t$$
 Incomplete Euler Beta function

#### Parametric GRT model:

$$T_a(\tau) = \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{a}\right)^{-a}$$
$$\left|\dot{T}_a(\tau)\right| = \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{a}\right)^{-(a+1)}$$

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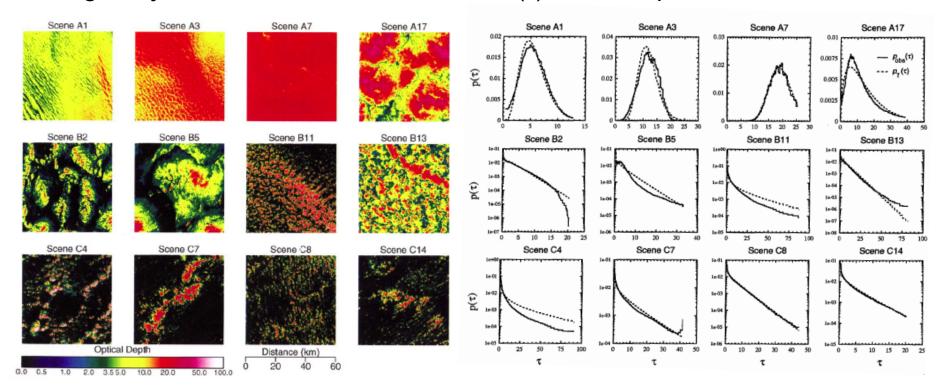
Standard RT model is recovered at  $a \rightarrow \infty$ 

... the only case where  $T_{\infty}(\tau) = |dT_{\infty}/d\tau|(\tau) = \exp(-\tau)$ .

But, why mess with the propagation part of the transport kernel in the first place?

#### Motivation of generalized RT in plane-parallel media, 1:

- The turbulent nature of clouds ensures long-range correlations in fluctuating extinction field: structure functions  $\sim r^{2H}$ , with  $H \approx 1/3 > 0$ .
- Hence scale-independence of extinction averaged over a segment of fixed length s; just need to know the stats of  $\tau(s)$  at one representative value of s.



H. W. Barker, B. A. Wielicki, and L. Parker, A parameterization for computing grid-averaged solar fluxes for inhomogeneous marine boundary layer clouds - Part 2, Validation using satellite data, *J. Atmos. Sci.* **53**, 2304-2316 (1996).

#### Motivation of generalized RT in plane-parallel media, 1:

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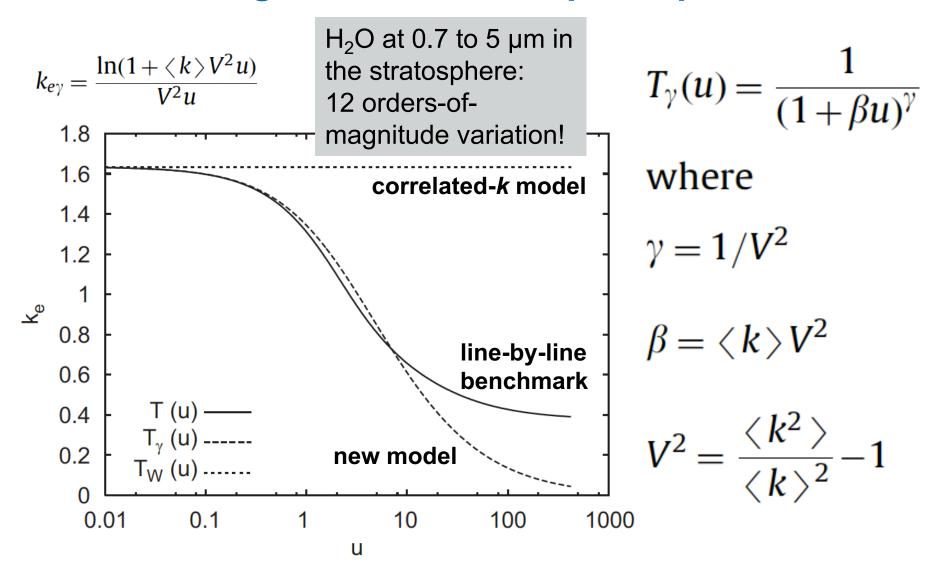
$$p(\tau(s); \overline{\tau}(s), a) \approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \left(\frac{a}{\overline{\tau}(s)}\right)^a \tau(s)^{a-1} e^{-a\tau(s)/\overline{\tau}(s)},$$

where 
$$a = \frac{1}{\overline{\tau(s)^2}/\overline{\tau(s)}^2 - 1}$$
 and  $\tau(s) = \int_0^s \sigma(x + \Omega s') ds'$ 

Therefore 
$$\overline{T_{\text{dir}}(s)} = \overline{e^{-\tau(s)}} = \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\tau(s)} p(\tau(s); \overline{\tau}(s), a) d\tau(s) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{\overline{\tau(s)}}{a}\right)^{a}}$$

a is mean<sup>2</sup>/variance

#### Motivation of generalized RT in plane-parallel media, 2:



A. J. Conley and W. D. Collins, Extension of the weak-line approximation and application to correlated-*k* methods, *JQSRT* **112**, 1525-1532 (2011).

# How to combine particle scattering and gaseous absorption in GRT?

# Use equivalency of time-dependent RT and absorption by a uniform gas:

$$I_{\lambda}(z, \mathbf{\Omega}) \equiv \hat{I}(z, \mathbf{\Omega}; k_{\lambda}) = \int_{0}^{\infty} \exp(-k_{\lambda} ct) I(ct, z, \mathbf{\Omega}) dct$$

In standard 1D RTE (integral or integro-differential forms):

$$\sigma = \sigma_{\rm s} + \sigma_{\rm a} = \omega_0 \sigma_{\rm p} + (1 - \omega_0) \sigma_{\rm p} \rightarrow \sigma_{\rm a} = (1 - \omega_0) \sigma_{\rm p} + k_{\lambda}$$

... a local extension

#### In generalized 1D RTE (integral form only!):

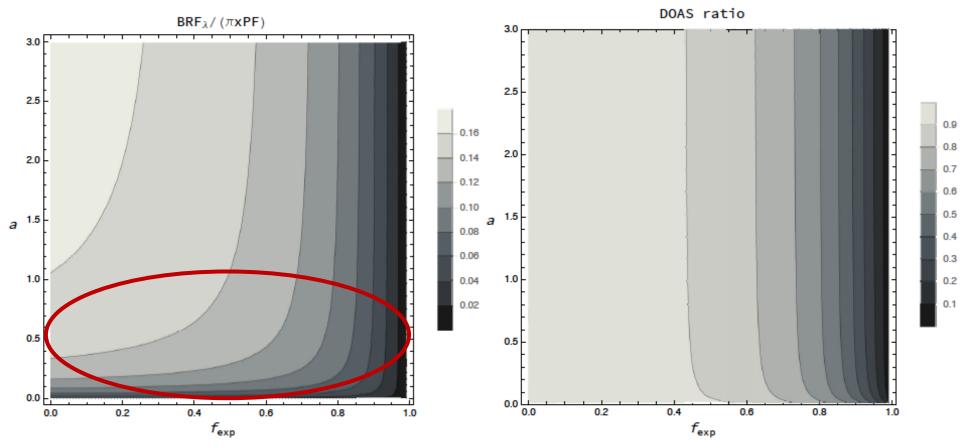
$$T(\tau)$$
 and  $|\dot{T}(\tau)|$  to be multiplied by:  $\exp[-k_{\lambda}(z-z')/\mu]$ 

... a *non-local* extension

# Subpixel spatially *heterogeneous* aerosol scattering in an absorbing gas: Monochromatic estimation

Noticeable impacts in BRF (at small enough *a*)

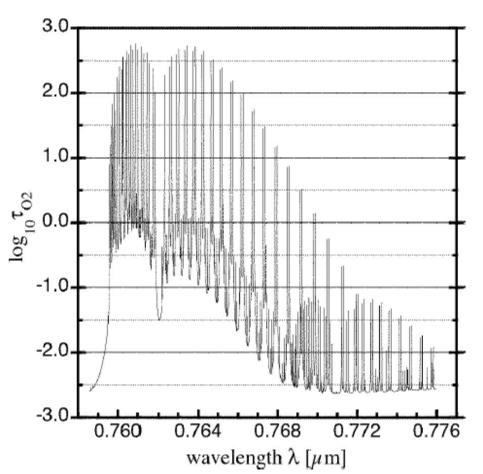
... all but gone in DOAS ratio: BRF<sub>in-band</sub>/BRF<sub>continuum</sub>



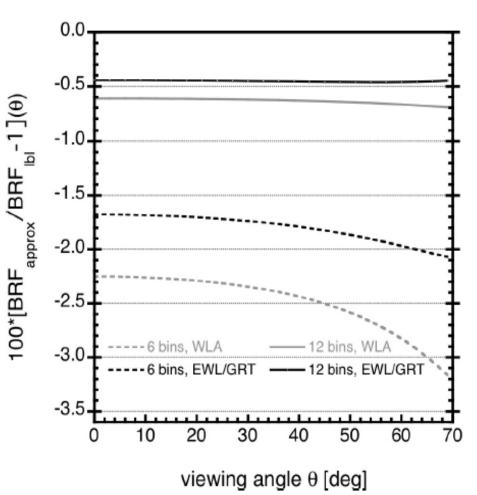
 $f_{\text{exp}}$  = (gaseous absorption) / (total extinction) coefficients

# Subpixel spatially *homogeneous* aerosol scattering in an absorbing gas: **Broadband** estimation

 $N_{\lambda}$  = 29,620 single-scattering BRF evaluations in line-by-line benchmark computations.



 $N_{\text{bin}}$  = 6 or 12 single-scattering BRF evaluations in correlated-k or GRT estimations: % error  $\downarrow$ 



#### **Summary & Outlook**

- Rigorous extension of GRT to combined particle scattering and gaseous absorption
- Analytical solution in GRT for singlescattering, applicable to thin aerosol layers
- Application of GRT to fast-but-accurate spectral integration, including scattering
- To do: Incorporate into existing (Markovchain) GRT multiple scattering code

#### **Details:**

A.B. Davis, F. Xu, D.J. Diner, Generalized radiative transfer theory for scattering by particles in an absorbing gas: Addressing both spatial and spectral integration in multiangle remote sensing of optically thin aerosol layers, *JQSRT* **205**, 148–162 (2018).

A.B. Davis, F. Xu, D.J. Diner, Addendum to "[the above]", *JQSRT* **206**, 251–253 (2018).